

Application No.: 09/936,688

Docket No.: 17221/007001

**REMARKS**

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

**Disposition of Claims**

Claims 1, 2, and 4-17 are currently pending in this application. Claims 18-21 have been newly added by way of this reply. Claims 1, 20, and 21 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 1.

**Claim Amendments**

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation "wherein said parking authorization control elements comprise a parking ticket printed by the parking ticket machine and wherein the parking ticket comprises the information concerning the parking time." Support for this amendment may be found, for example, on page 3, line 31 – page 4, line 4 of the Specification. In addition, claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the various information is received by the parking server from the mobile phone. Further, dependent claims 12 and 13 have been amended to address antecedent basis issues arising from the amendment of independent claim 1. Finally, all the dependent claims have been amended to correct typographical errors. No new subject matter is added by way of these amendments.

**New Claims**

Newly added independent claim 20 recites the subject matter of amended independent claim 1 and includes the limitation "wherein the parking server obtains vehicle identification information using a subscriber number associated with the subscription to the mobile telephone

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network.” Support for this amendment may be found, for example, on page 7 of the Specification. New independent claim 21 includes the subject matter of independent claims 1 and 20.

Newly added dependent claim 18, which depends from independent claim 1, recites that the parking ticket is placed visibly inside the motor vehicle to enable the parking ticket to be visually monitored by a monitoring agent. New dependent claim 19, also dependent on independent claim 1, is directed to a receiving standby mode of the parking server. Support for the newly added dependent claims can be found, for example, on page 5, lines 21-22 and page 5, line 30 – page 6, line 1 of the Specification. Applicant asserts that no new subject matter is added by way of the newly added claims.

#### Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 2, and 4-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 97/37328 (“Ouimet”) and WO 98/04080 (“Zeitman”). To the extent that this rejection may still apply to the amended claims, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite that the “parking authorization control elements comprise a parking ticket printed by the parking ticket machine and wherein the parking ticket comprises the information concerning the parking time”

Turning to the rejection of the claims, to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness “...the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations.” (See MPEP §2143.03). Further, “all words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art.” (See MPEP §2143.03). The Applicant respectfully asserts that the references, when combined, fail to teach or suggest all the claim limitations of independent claim 1.

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With respect to amended independent claim 1, Ouimet only discloses "receipts" given to motorists. Ouimet fails to disclose or suggest that the receipts include *information concerning the parking time* (see Ouimet, page 6). In fact, a receipt is intended to be kept by the motorist, so that the motorist can verify that his bank account has been debited accurately. It is not necessary to place information concerning the parking time on a receipt so that the receipt may be placed inside the motor vehicle as proof of payment for monitoring agents. Thus, it is clear that one skilled in the art would not find that it is obvious to place information concerning the parking time on the receipt disclosed in Ouimet.

Moreover, even assuming *arguendo* that Ouimet discloses that parking time is listed on a parking ticket or some type of receipt, Ouimet fails to disclose or suggest the limitations of dependent claims 2, 9, and 10. Dependent claims 2 and 9 recite that the information concerning the parking time comprises a parking period of time defined by the user (*i.e.*, time that the user wishes to use). Ouimet fails to disclose or suggest that time included on a parking ticket is defined by the user and expressed as a time period that the user wishes to use. Further, Ouimet fails to disclose or suggest that the start of parking time and the end of parking time respectively sent to the parking server on arrival at and departure from the parking location of the vehicle, as recited in dependent claim 10. In fact, Ouimet fails to specifically disclose that two times (*i.e.*, the start of parking time and the end of the parking time) are sent to the parking server.

Further, Zeitman fails to disclose that which Ouimet lacks. In particular, Zeitman discloses that parking time is reported to a central control unit (see Zeitman, page 2, lines 19-23 and page 6). Thus, in Zeitman, the parking time is directly reported to a central entity by the user, but is not printed on a ticket to be placed inside the vehicle. The reporting of parking time to a central entity is clearly separate and distinct from a printed ticket that includes the parking time. From the above it is clear that Zeitman fails to disclose a parking ticket comprising a

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parking. In view of the fact the Zeitman fails to teach or suggest a parking ticket, it logically follows that Zeitman also fails to disclose the additional limitations of dependent claims 2, 9, and 10.

In view of the above, it is clear that Ouimet and Zeitman, whether considered separately or in combination, fail to render amended independent claim 1 obvious. Thus, amended independent claim 1 is patentable over Ouimet and Zeitman. Dependent claims 2 and 4-17 are patentable for at least the same reasons as amended independent claim 1. Further, claims 2, 9, and 10 are additionally patentable over the cited art for the additional reasons discussed above. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

#### **New Dependent Claims 18 and 19**

Newly added dependent claims 18 and 19, which depend from amended independent claim 1, are patentable over Ouimet and Zeitman for at least the same reasons described above with respect to amended independent claim 1.

Further, newly added dependent claim 19 recites that the parking ticket machine is placed in a receiving standby mode by a user. Neither Ouimet nor Zeitman disclose that a parking ticket machine has a receiving standby mode, where parking server is placed in the receiving standby mode when the payment by telephone option is selected. Thus, it follows that neither Ouimet nor Zeitman disclose that the parking ticket machine receives the information concerning the parking time while in receiving standby mode.

#### **New Independent Claims 20 and 21**

Independent claim 20 and 21, which recite in part, that the parking server obtains vehicle identification (ID) information using a subscriber number associated with the subscription to the

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mobile telephone network. Said another way, claims 20 and 21 require that there is a mapping maintained between the vehicle ID information and the subscriber number, such that the vehicle ID information may be obtained based on inputting of the subscriber number. Turning to the cited references, neither Ouimet nor Zeitman disclose using a subscriber number associated with a user's subscription to mobile services to obtain vehicle ID information.

In Ouimet, vehicle ID information is gathered from motorists at the payment terminals (*see* Ouimet, Abstract). Thus, motorists input vehicle ID information manually in Ouimet. Further, in Zeitman, vehicle ID information is reported by the user via a communications link, which may be a telephone, mobile telephone, or Internet communications link, or sensors that read vehicle ID information (*see* Zeitman, page 2, lines 19-23). Thus, although Zeitman discloses different communications links that can be used to report vehicle ID information, Zeitman is completely silent with respect to specifically using a *subscriber number* to relay vehicle ID information. In fact, the only time Zeitman mentions a subscription number is with respect to *billing* the user for parking payments, not for obtaining vehicle ID information. Thus, both Ouimet and Zeitman fail to teach or suggest obtaining vehicle ID information based on the subscriber number. In view of the above, new independent claims 20 and 21 are patentable over the cited references.

Further, new independent claim 21 recites similar subject matter as amended independent claim 1, and is additionally patentable over Ouimet and Zeitman for at least the same reasons described above with respect to amended independent claim 1. Accordingly, favorable consideration of new independent claims 20 and 21 is respectfully requested.

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**Conclusion**

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 17221/007001).

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